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>>>>>>>><<<<<<<<
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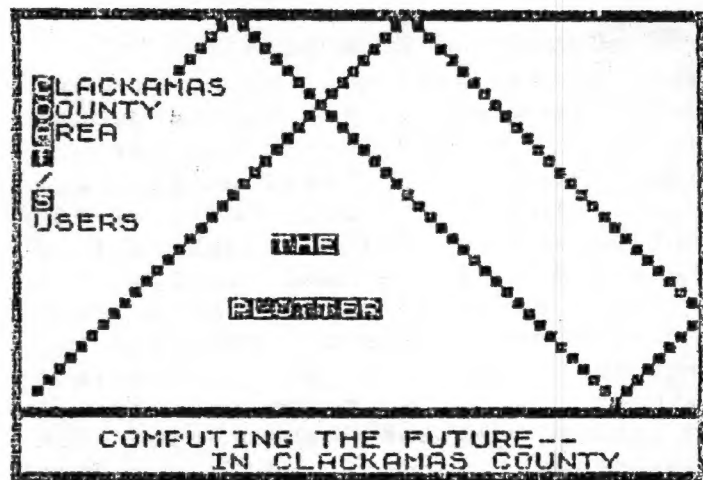
THE

PLOTTER

MEETING

The DECEMBER meeting will be:

on FRI., DECEMBER 9, 1988
meeting room open at 7:00 P.M.
meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.
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WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THIS ISSUE

To our Readers: A Merry
Christmas and a happy and
Prosperous New Year

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COMPUTING THE FUTURE--
IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

(NOTE: Our President's message for the November issue did not arrive in time to be included in that issue. It is used for the December issue as his comments are certainly current. The Editor.)
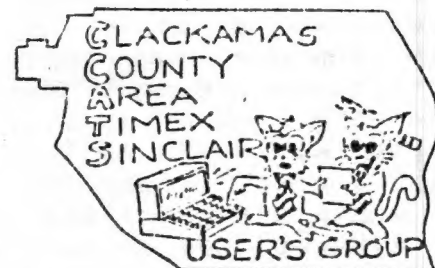
SOAP BOX

November is "Nominations" month. Yes, it is time to be thinking of new officeholders for the year of 1989. So come prepared to the November meeting.

Another good reason to attend the November meeting is Ed Fry's demonstration of his (ever growing) Input/Output board for the 1000. If you had the good fortune to witness its debut at the Mini-Fair, you certainly don't want to miss seeing how it has matured. It will also be a golden opportunity to "pick" Ed's brain for more details. This may turn out to be an excellent group project, building our own I/O boards. In theory this board should be able to work with the 2068.

On the Computer News Front -- Carver Mead, a professor at Caltech and one of the pioneers in VLSI (Very Large Scale Integration), is in the process of creating analog

VSLI neural systems. Using current CMOS technology he has produced pieces of silicon which can see and hear. His silicon "retina" is a 6 x 8-mm analog VLSI chip with 2,304 photosensitive cells. Each cell is 100 x 125 microns and includes a entire circuit built with CMOS transistors. Mead's retina can register movement of an object without using any computer imaging. To accomplish the same feat with conventional sensors would require the power of a Cray supercomputer.

Also on the computer news front is the first conviction of an individual for placing a "virus" in a computer. The computer-virus fear is growing. Companies are refusing to allow employees to download any programs into their company computers. Some companies have even prevented employees from bringing any outside programs or data into their systems.

Fantasy Time -- A few years ago, a very large software company started a "Top Secret" project. The president and owner of the company was frightened by the brazen attitude of the growing hordes of "Pirates" roving the countryside. He instructed his most trusted programmers to devise methods of protecting their software from the pirates. Many techniques were developed, including various copy-protection schemes and the dreaded "LensLock". However, the "hackers" easily provided new means to crack such devices.

The owner of the company drove his programmers to work even harder on a means to break the backs of the software-pirates. Due to his extreme phobia of the pirates, the owner had kept his best programmers working on the secret project and had neglected improving and developing his software line. As market pressures surely do in such cases, his company soon collapsed and their offices and equipment were liquidated at a bankruptcy auction.

As fate would have it, a University bought some of the computer equipment and installed it in their system. And as luck would deem it necessary, this system was also shared by a large BBS with thousands of Public Domain programs for downloading. Unbeknownst to anyone (except the now mad and depraved president and owner of the ex-company), buried deep within the resident memory core of the system was the "germ" of a perfect defense against pirates. A "virus" which would invade any computer system which received unauthorized pirated copies of software. And thus was unleashed into the innocent world of computing, the now ever prevelant computer virus. THE END

Sinclairly Michael E. Carver

BITS & BYTES
by: ROD GOWEN

Heard any TS related news lately? Did you get any information in the mail from other users, user groups, or vendors that may be of interest to our readers? If so, why not share it with us? We need all of the help that we can get. Please send any info that you might have to: Rod Gowen, C/O CCAT/S, 1419 1/2 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045, or, phone in at: 503/655-7484, 10 AM- 10 PM weekdays. I know that the entire user group will appreciate it!

E-Z KEY-

A long time supporter and dealer of TS related products, is calling it quits for good. RMG Enterprises has purchased all existing stock from E-Z KEY. We are sorry to see another valued TS dealer bow out of the marketplace, but, due to the continuing decline of both products and customers to buy them, we will more than likely see many more give it up for good. If you want the existing dealers to continue to support you and your TS computer, you must support them! Read the ads! Buy the products! DO NOT ACCEPT OR MAKE COPIES OF ANY SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE THAT MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE FROM A DEALER!

TIME DESIGNS MAGAZINE-

"IS STILL ALIVE AND WELL! Just because an issue is a month or so late, there is no reason to call out the bugler to sound taps!" That is the way I started this newsbit last month. I am sorry to have to start it almost the same again this time. I can say that I spoke to TIM WOODS, editor of TDM, last evening and

was told that they are <u>DEFINITELY NOT GIVING IT UP!</u> He said to tell all of the loyal fans and subscribers that the current(?) issue, Sept/Oct, would be out in a few days and that plans were to follow with the Nov/Dec issue withing 2-3 weeks after that and then to try to have the Jan/Feb out by mid-January. We wish him luck! We know how hard it is to "catch up" after getting behind. Let's all show our support and try to keep this fine publication going as long as possible.

RMG ENTERPRISES-

reports that shipments of the 1988 Mini-Fair seminar video tapes were 1 day behind schedule. NOT BAD! They were to begin shipping on 11/1/88 but actually got the first one out the door on 11/2/88. If you have a set on order, do not dispair! You should have it shortly. If not, please let them know. The audio version of the seminar tapes was completed 11/15/88. If any of you were waiting for these, now you can get them. At $39.95 PP for either VHS video (2 tapes) or audio (6 C-90 tapes) we think that this should be a good value. Lots of good information.

THE CAMBRIDGE Z88-

has undergone a <u>price increase!</u> I can bet that a lot of you may have been expecting a price drop. What is it they always told me? "Don't count your chickens 'till they're hatched!" Seems that they were correct in this instance. We received a flyer from CAMBRIDGE DIRECT, the direct sales division for the U.S. distributor of this fine little computer with the new, higher prices. Kind of suprised us. Do not dispair here tho, as 2 of the dealers you have come to trust will be holding the line on the price. The new "suggested" retail is $599.95, but both RMG and Sharp's say that they will discount this a good deal. In fact, RMG tell all that through 12/15/88 you can get one for only $449.95!

RAM-DISK BACKUP-

on the Larken system was a bit of a problem as it could only be done 1 file at a time. Now, one of our supporters in Astoria, Oregon, has come up with a neat little utility called, what else?- RAM-DISK BACKUP/RESTORE UTILITY, and has put it into the public domain for all to use. RMG Enterprises will make it avail-

able in their public domain library for Larken at a nominal cost of $3 plus shipping for the program on disk. Fully tested and with a few enhancements. We hope that more fine folks do the same.

UPDATES MAGAZINE-

is growing! Have you seen the current issue? At 80 pages, it is, by far, the largest TS magazine around. Too bad it is not a bi-monthly or even a monthly! But at least Bill Jones, the editor is in there punching for us TSers! Let's support him.

THAT WILL HAVE TO DO FOR NOW----LATER...

LARKEN LINES

by: ROD GOWEN

We are back again! Christmas is just around the corner and I am sure you are all getting your lists of Larken items you want posted all around the house as gentle hints!

We have not heard of any new and exciting items coming out from Larken in the near future. The last time I spoke to Larry (last night) the only news was that he is planning to get some the older projects finished. I hope that he does, and soon! Keep watching! We will keep you posted on ANY news we can get!

I am now going to turn it over to one of our neighbors from Seaside, RICHARD HURD. Richard has written a VERY nice little utility for those of us who are using the Larken system and the RAM-DISK. He has been good enough to put it into the Public Domain. If any of you have any trouble with it, or, if you simply do not want to type it in on your own, you can get a copy on SSDD 5.25" disk for the minimal cost of $3 plus $1 postage. As this is a public domain s/w, the cost is only to cover the disk and copy time.

RAM-DISK BACKUP/RESTORE UTILITY
by: RICHARD HURD

Some time ago I purchased a Larken RAM-DISK but only just recently got around to getting any RAM for it. I started with 128K. The first thing I discovered was that of the six different disk/file copy programs I have, none of them would make a

backup copy of the RAM-DISK! The catalog area of the directory track (block Ø) on the RAM-DISK does not start at the same address as the catalog area of a directory track on a formatted disk. This is fine according to the rules of LKDOS programming, which is highly flexible.

Anyway, I wrote a little program to do it. It, like the other LKDOS copy programs, does not follow the rules. It is written especially for backing up and restoring the RAM-DISK! The RAM-DISK Backup/Restore Utility 1 double-sided disk drive. It can be either double or quad density. It copies ALL FORMATTED tracks of the RAM-DISK. It could be re-written for a single-sided drive, but the 48 tracks/blocks of a 256K RAM-DISK would not fit on a 42 track disk!

I don't want to totally dedicate the RAM-DISK to any one application. Keep your options open. Using the RAM-DISK BACKUP/RESTORE UTILITY makes it a snap to use the RAM-DISK for any other application that you might want. And, of course, you never know when those batteries might give out!

```
10 REM ***********************

20 REM        RAMDISK
           BACKUP & RESTORE
              UTILITY

30 REM (C)1988 by Richard Hurd
          for the public domain

40 REM REQUIRES 1 40 (DD) OR
          1 80 (QD) FLOPPY DRIVE

50 REM 1 FORMATTED DISK FOR
          THE DRIVE. FORMATTED EITHE
R         WITH THE DISK FORMAT PROG
.         OR THE EXT. BASIC COMMAN
D:        FORMAT "n", WHERE N=NUM
BER       OF RAM CHIPS.

100 REM ***********************

110 LET read=40001: LET write=4
0021: LET trak=40000: LET mem=4
0075
120 PRINT TAB 13;"LKDOS";AT 2,1
;"RAMDISK BACKUP/RESTORE UTILIT
Y"
```

```
125 PRINT AT 6,3;"1)  Backup RA
M-DISK"'''TAB 3;"2)  Restore RAM
-DISK"''''TAB 7;"Choose 1 Or 2"
130 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 13
0
135 IF INKEY$<"1" OR INKEY$>"2"
 THEN  BEEP .2,0: GO TO 130
140 IF INKEY$="1" THEN  LET sou
rc=4: INPUT "BackUp "; FLASH 1;
" TO "; FLASH 0;" Which Drive?
";dest
145 IF INKEY$="1" THEN  IF dest
<0 OR dest>3 THEN  BEEP .2,0: G
O TO 140
150 IF INKEY$="2" THEN  LET des
t=4: INPUT "Restore "; FLASH 1;
" FROM "; FLASH 0;" Which Drive
? ";sourc
155 IF INKEY$="2" THEN  IF sour
c<0 OR dest>3 THEN  BEEP .2,0:
GO TO 150
160 CLS : IF sourc=4 THEN  PRIN
T '''"Insert Backup Disk In Driv
e #";dest;"."
165 IF dest=4 THEN  PRINT '''"In
sert Source Disk In Drive #";so
urc;"."
170 IF dest<>4 THEN  PRINT ''''
''''TAB 4;"Press SpaceBar To Ba
ckup"
175 IF sourc<>4 THEN  PRINT '''
''''''TAB 4;"Press SpaceBar To R
estore"
180 PRINT 'TAB 8;"*** RAMDISK *
**"
183 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN  GO TO 1
83
185 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 18
5
190 IF dest<>4 THEN  PRINT '''T
AB 6;"Backing Up RAM-DISK"
195 IF dest=4 THEN  PRINT '''TA
B 7;"Restoring RAM-DISK"
200 PRINT #4: GO TO sourc
205 POKE trak,0: RANDOMIZE USR
read
210 LET stks=PEEK (mem+20)*PEEK
 (mem+21)
220 PRINT #4: GO TO dest
230 RANDOMIZE USR write
240 FOR f=1 TO (stks-1)
250 PRINT #4: GO TO sourc
260 POKE trak,f: RANDOMIZE USR
read
270 PRINT #4: GO TO dest
280 RANDOMIZE USR write
290 NEXT f
300 CLS : PRINT #4: CAT "",
310 STOP
9000 REM cartridge access/move
          code subroutines
```

4

```
9010 RESTORE 9100
9020 FOR f=40001 TO 40074
9030 READ code
9040 POKE f,code
9050 NEXT f
9060 RUN
9100 DATA 205,105,156,58,64,156
9110 DATA 50,29,32,205,126,0
9120 DATA 205,123,0,205,115,156
9130 DATA 24,25,205,105,156,58
9140 DATA 64,156,50,29,32,205
9150 DATA 126,0,205,127,156,205
9160 DATA 120,0,24,5,243,205
9170 DATA 98,0,201,58,100,0
9180 DATA 251,201,33,112,32,17
9190 DATA 139,156,1,0,20,237
9200 DATA 176,201,33,139,156,17
9210 DATA 112,32,1,0,20,237
9220 DATA 176,201
9995 PAPER 7: INK 9: BORDER 7: C
LEAR 39999: RANDOMIZE USR 100:
OPEN #4,"dd"
9996 GO TO 9000
9999 PRINT #4: SAVE "RDBKUP.B1"
LINE 9995
```

SECRETARY'S SECRETS

by Jack Armstrong

He's Back! As most of you know, your secretary had vehicle problems last month and had to call in and express regrets at not being able to make the meeting. The chairman, Mike Carver was very gracious in his understanding. At the November meeting called to order at 7:40, Mike called for Old Business and read a letter from Syd Wyncoop that brought us up to date with his latest adventures in Sunny Southern California. He has linked up with a group there that only meets every two months. They are still mostly running from tape recorders. It is their gain to have Syd who will probably enliven their existence with tales of A&J, AERCO and Larken. Syd is in need of Oliger info from Dick as he is compiling a book on AERCO. If any of you wish to write to him, you can get the address from Rod Gowen.

There was a letter from SNUG who want a liason member from our group. The letter gave info on SNUG's aims and restated their purpose to be an information center and not a rival

to user groups. The member rates are $15 for a group and $12 for single memberships. That makes for a small conflict: our group can be a part of SNUG for $15 and all of us will be privy to all information; on the other hand, that only counts as 1 member to SNUG. If one joins on his own and pays the $12, he counts as 1 member. Their aim is to have 100 members by January 1989. There was a lively and unrestrained discussion of the SNUG situation by most present, but no resolution. Rod made a motion for us to join, Bob Evans offered a second and the group passed the motion. (Personal observation: it would seem that we should also join as individuals to help them make their quota).

Bob Evans informed us of his expenditures each month and it was agreed to eliminate some non-productive items. There was discussion on the subject of giving a letter or plaque to Rod in appreciation of his extra efforts to make the mini-fair work and his usual extra effort on all fronts. Glenn Ten-Eyck will do the honors. Welcome back, Glenn. It was suggested that we create some sort of recognition for those whose work has brought about our existence as a group, or to those whose continuing efforts have contributed to our continuing welfare. Perhaps some sort of Hall of Fame. There followed a discussion and a motion to make it official was made.

There were suggestions as to who would be candidates and the names of Dennis Jurries, Rod Gowen, Syd Wyncoop, Tim Woods, and Mike Carver were mentioned, among others. The motion was tabled for next meeting. There will be space on the ballot for nominations. D. Lewis asked if there were any members who attended the CP/M group meeting. There was one affirmative reply. Your secretary, Jack Armstrong read an excerpt from Printer's Plus, a trade magazine for printers, which noted that if price/performance for automobiles had improved in the last 25 years as that of computers then a Rolls-Royce would only cost $2.50 & would get 6 million miles to the gallon. He also brought an ad published in a local advertiser paper: Public Domain BBS with 3500 titles in download library

5

form and other goodies. It says there is a free demo mode; that may mean there is some fee to pay down the road. At any rate, the phone no. is 503-761-8100 12/2400 N,8,1. Discussion followed.

At Mikes's behest, nominations for next year's officers were opened and Mike and Ed Fry were named for Chair Person. Vice-chairman: Merlin Raymond, Ken Lutes and Bill Dunlop. For Secretary: Jack Armstrong and Betty Schaffler.

Following the nominations, Rod reported that he had tons of Computer Shoppers that were sent after the Fair. He is selling them cheap and it may help out on our deficit. Sure would have been nice to have them at the Fair as anticipated. At any rate they are there and lots of goodies are advertised and there is still a Timex Survivor column. A subscription would make a fine gift for a friend or for a wife to give to her husband or the other way around.

Ed Frye gave a demo of his alarm system and said he had information and plans available. His system is very impressive and operates from a Timex 1000 with add-on boards and is very inexpensive if you are handy with a soldering gun...check with Ed or look for it in Time Designs. The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

BE SURE TO VOTE NEXT MONTH!

Dear Editor:
I will only speak for myself but I am sure most of CCAT/S feels as I do. As with any group or organization 90% of the work is done by 10% of the group. I want to thank the editor in particular but include all of the contributers of our news letter, THE PLOTTER. They give of their time and effort and do one hell of a job. It is very seldom that I get The Plotter that I don't head for the computer room to read it.

I myself have given very little to be published, but I share when I can. I believe that no matter how small or how unimportant you feel it may be, it could be of help to some one out there. I myself can use all of the help I can get. I think I

have every Plotter I have recieved. I go over them every once in a while because I know there was something in one of then that I need now that I didn't need at the time I first read it.

Again I say THANK YOU to all of the ones that have helped me out by sending something to The Plotter. And a special thanks to our editor and to the people writting regular columns.

Bob Evans

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This issue carries the continuation of the OLIGER SAFE DOS set of commands. Granted, I am the only user of OLIGER DOS in our group, but this series will give the reader an idea of this operating system. If a potential purchaser of a disk system wants to compare the features of the current systems, this is a good start. Future issues will carry the same kind of material on the LARKEN and AERCO systems. I will need assistance in writing up the AERCO material. Are there any volunteers who will provide the information?

I have joined the list of QL users, having blown my budget for computer goodies this time. It will become a learning process for sure. So far, the QUILL program doesn't appear to be equal to Mscript v5.3 in flexability. V5.3 has the potential for up to 52 printer commands that can be readily combined where as QUILL seems to require a set of printer commands to be assigned to a character. Also, I haven't found out the procedure for printing more than one copy of a page. Maybe I won't give up on the old 2068.

If any reader needs a Japanese FONT in order to write to people in Japan, Jack Dohany has it in his list of fonts as provided in his program, SD 4 and associated program USE4. Of course there are some 20 fonts to chose from just one set, and he has several.

Having read this far it must be apparent that elections take place at the December meeting. As usual, mail-in ballots are counted if they are received at our mailing address no later than the 15th. One disadvantage of this system is that a close count for 2 members running for one office cannot be decided at the meeting if there are many absent members. The Editor agreed to run for an office if a volunteer stepped forward and agreed to take on the task of publishing this sheet. Odd--no one volunteered!

Recently I read that the some 6000 computers inflicted with virus were all of the type that depends on the operating system input by disk. It was the OS that was stored on disk that was contaminated. Our lowly TS types with self contained OS should be safe from this type of virus (OS virus?).

A review of our newsletter exchange system indicates some changes are in order to keep up with drop-out user groups and new publications. We only know a group is out of business if we hear of its demise or we no longer receive a newsletter. My involvement was due to taking on the task of cataloging our present stack of material so Gallen can carry on. Part of the task was to download the PRO FILE filings from Aerco disk to Larken format, which has been done. Now to finish that stack of material. It is awfully easy to get side tracked by reading something of interest. However, this is sure a good way to keep up on other groups.

Our Secretary didn't mention that the November meeting place was changed due to my forgetfulness. Friday was a bank holiday and I neglected to get the room key the day before. A fast scurry around located a banquet room at Elmer's Pancake House on Molalla Avem in Oregon City. I'm afraid we lost one or more newcommers who didn't get there. There were some guests who swelled our group to almost 20 people. Nice to have such a large group. One advantage was that we had our late evening food right there.

The December meeting will include another demonstration of using the TS 1000 workhorse. Ed Fry's fine exhibit depicted a home alarm system in which the TS 1000 displayed the alarm origin of burglar activity. Dick Wagner will demonstrate a small "black box" device that uses the TS 1000 computer to display values of capacitance and resistance, plus the measurement of audio frequency. A first time demonstration for our user group!

OLIGER SAFE V 2.5 DISK OPERATING SYSTEM
Dick Wagner

CONTINUED FROM THE NOVEMBER ISSUE-

SAVE/"name" CODE m,n is the same as for cassette.

SAVE/"name" SCREEN$ is same as for cassette

LOAD/"name" SCREEN$ is same as for cassette

SAVE/"name" DATA x() is same as for cassette

LOAD/"name" DATA x() is same as for cassette

SAVE/"name" DATA x$() is same as for cassette

LOAD/"name" DATA x$() is same as for cassette

SAVE/"name" VAL saves all variables to disk from current BASIC program.

LOAD/"name" VAL loads all variables but will not clear them. CLEAR will delete the old variables so new variables can be loaded.

SAVE/"name" ABS (absolute) saves the entire "STATE" of the computer to disk. Saves all of the regular RAM so BASIC program variables, machine code, video screen, etc to disk. The original SAFE DOS did this on all saves as SAVE/1, etc.

LOAD/"name" ABS loads in the file in exactly the same state it was saved in. This command is also used to load NMI saves.

LOAD/n command makes it possible to load the old NMI saves used in version 1.

SAVE//"name" type, makes it possible to make a save without the 5 second delay when overwriting a file. Handy for making BBS saves.

MERGE/"name" appends a BASIC file on to one currently in the computer. Variables are included. This does not erase the BASIC or variables currently in the computer. Requires line numbers, variables and machine code addresses to be higher than resident program.

CAt or CAT/ displays the catalog from the current drive. Data displayed is file name, type of file, number of cylinders, (5120 bytes/cylinder), starting address of the code, starting line number for BASIC, and actual number of bytes of code. Also displayed is the disk name, number of sides, number of tracks, number of cylinders free, number of files, and number of cylinders used. The catalog can be copied on a large printer with OPEN #2, "p".

CONTINUED IN A FUTURE ISSUE

—NOTICE—

Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of members of the Clackamas County Area T/S User Group. Meeting minutes carry the concensus of members present at meetings. This newsletter nor staff will be held liable for any damage or consequences due to following instructions, or review of products as contained in this newsletter.

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